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Department of State
Operations Center

(GUYANA TASK FORCE)

Situation Report No. 25

Situation in Guyana as of 2200 hours (EST), Nov. 29, 1978

The seven elderly Peoples Temple members departed Georgetown and arrived in New York Wednesday evening, where they caught onward flights to California. Members of the press were present on the plane from Georgetown, but all seven survivors declined to be interviewed. Customs and Immigration clearances were done on the plane upon arrival in New York, as were interviews by the FBI and Secret Service. The FBI reports that about 80-90 members of the press were waiting for the survivors in New York, but that only hurried interviews were possible as the group walked down the hall of the Pan Am terminal. One survivor, who was waiting for his onward flight in the TWA terminal secure area, was interviewed for a longer period by a reporter who was a passenger on the same flight.

Traveling with this group was a Consular Officer returning from temporary duty, who carried the undeveloped film of the Guyanese immigration fingerprint records and a copy of the autopsy report on Congressman Ryan.

Embassy personnel will go to Jonestown by helicopter midday tomorrow to place consular seals on the Peoples Temple property there. This action gives notice that the property has been placed under the protective custody of the US Embassy.

The US marshals assigned to accompany the Peoples Temple survivors from Georgetown to Charleston as part of the Air Force crew have been asked to stand down from alert until we receive notice that a considerable number of survivors have been released by the GOG and wish USG transportation. The marshals will be able to return to Charleston within ~~six hours~~ of being notified.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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Dover reports that six more bodies have been identified, bringing the total of positively identified dead to 46. Dover has also announced that the final count of bodies received in the US stands at 911.

The Department of Justice has arranged for autopsies to be performed on Reverend James Jones, at the request of the Guyanese Government, and on Jones' mistress, Maria Katsaris.

R.L. Bruce
Guyana Working Group

James Thyden
Senior Watch Officer

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